

Wyoming Department of Education

Dr. Jim McBride, Superintendent of Public Instruction
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MEMORANDUM NO. 2009-175

TO: School District Superintendents

School Principals

Special Education Directors

Building Intervention Team Coordinators

FROM: Jim McBride, Ed.D.

DATE: November 6, 2009

SUBJECT: Education Success for Children in Foster Care

IMPORTANT - PLEASE READ

In October of 2008, the Fostering Connections to Success Act was enacted. There are changes in the child welfare law, but they cannot be realized without collaboration from local education systems.

The act in its entirety can be found at www.abanet.org/child/education

There are eight (8) goals listed for youth in the Act. The eight are as follows:

- 1. Remain in the same school
- 2. Seamless transitions between schools
- 3. Young children are ready to learn
- 4. Equal access to the school experience
- 5. School dropout, truancy, and disciplinary actions addressed
- 6. Involving and empowering youth
- 7. Supportive adults as advocates and decision makers
- 8. Obtaining postsecondary education

Please contact your local Wyoming Department of Family Services (DFS) office or your area's District DFS Office to work with the caseworkers to provide a seamless transition during a child's foster care journey.

We have attached a list of the District DFS Managers for 2009 and their contact information.

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Partnering with local DFS caseworkers will empower children, families, and communities to increase academic achievement and lifelong connections with communities.

If you find a need for more specific information regarding partnering with entities and educational issues, please contact Kenya Haynes, Neglected or Delinquent Students Program Manager, 307-777-3672, khayne@educ.state.wy.us or Jo Ann Numoto, Court Ordered Placement of Students Program Manager, 307-777-7222, jnumot@educ.state.wy.us.

Thank you and your staffs for your continued work to ensure all Wyoming children have access to quality education.

JM:KH:JN:rew

Attachments

cc: Tony Lewis, Director
Department of Family Services

Dr. Brent D. Sherard, M.D., M.P.H. Director, Department of Health

Bob Lampert, Director Department of Corrections